

succeeded. These communications it is not deemed expedient to insert, as the whole process will soon be presented for publication in the Transactions of the Society, when an abstract will be given. Meanwhile, a notice of the results will appear in Silliman's Journal.

One of the copies of the Colonial Records, presented to the Society by the Legislature of the State, was offered to the acceptance of the President, Mr. Du Ponceau.

The thanks of the Society were returned to Mr. George Ord, for his attention to their request in relation to the purchase of books while abroad.

Stated Meeting, July 17.

Present, twenty-two members.

Mr. DU PONCEAU, President, in the Chair.

The following donations were received:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Proceedings of the Geological Society of London. Vol. II. and Vol. III. Nos. 59 to 62 inclusive. London, 1838 and 1839.

From the Society.

Proceedings of the Numismatic Society. 1836–37. London, 1837.

From the Society.

The Institutes of the Numismatic Society of London. London, 1838.

From the same.

A Discourse on the Life and Services of Stephen Van Rensselaer.

By Daniel D. Barnard. Albany, 1839.—*From the Albany Institute.*

Mémoires de la Société Royale des Antiquaires de France. Vol. XIV. Paris, 1838.—*From the Society.*

Tijdschrift voor Natuurlijke Geschiedenis en Physiologie. Uitgegeven door J. Van der Hoeven, M. D. Prof. te Leiden en W. H. de Vriese, M. D. Prof. te Amsterdam. Vol. V. No. 4. Leyden, 1839.—*From the Minister of the Interior of the Netherlands.*

- Sur les Avantages qu'on pourrait tirer de la Lecture des Anciens Écrivains Français. Par Théod. Lorin. Cambrai, 1839.—*From the Author.*
- Épîtres, Fables et Poésies Fugitives. Par Théodore Lorin. Paris, 1839.—*From the same.*
- A Report upon the Military and Hydrographical Chart of the Extremity of Cape Cod. By James D. Graham, Major U. S. Corps of Topographical Engineers.—*From the Author.*
- Chronometer Accuracy. Verification of the Longitude of Paris. London, 1839.—*From Dr. Lee.*
- Letter to the Secretary of the Treasury on the History and Causes of Steamboat Explosions and the means of prevention. By W. C. Redfield. New York, 1839.—*From the Author.*
- The English Instructor. In the Burman Language.—*From the Rev. J. P. Engles.*
- Jeremiah, in the Persian Language.—*From the same.*
- Harmony of the Gospels, in the Choctaw Language. Utica, 1831.
From the same.
- Novum Testamentum ad Exemplar Millianum. Editionem Primam Americanam recensuit Josephus P. Engles, A. M. Philadelphia, 1839.—*From the same.*
- Sermones Pomerii fratris Adelbarti de Themcswar. Hagenau, 1498.
From the same.
- Observations Météorologiques et Magnétiques faites dans l'Étendue de l'Empire de Russie, rédigées et publiées par A. T. Kupffer. St. Petersburg, 1837.—*From the Author.*
- Documents of the Kentucky Legislature. Session of 1837-38.—
From Mr. Edward Jarvis.
- Report of the Board of Internal Improvement of Kentucky, 1837.—
From Mr. E. Whittlesey.
- The Statutes of Ohio and of the North Western Territory. Vols. I., II., and III. Edited by Salmon P. Chase. Cincinnati, 1833.
From Mr. M. T. Williams.
- An Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of the United States, for the Year 1837. Washington, 1838.—*From the Treasurer of the United States.*
- Boston Journal of Natural History. Vol. II. Nos. 1 and 2. Boston, 1838 and 1839.—*From the Boston Society of Natural History.*
- The American Medical Library and Intelligencer. Edited by Robley

Dunglison, M. D. Vol. III. Nos. 2 to 8. Philadelphia, 1839.
From the Editor.

The American Journal of Science and Arts. Conducted by Benjamin Silliman, M. D. LL. D., aided by Benjamin Silliman, Jr., A. B. January to July, 1839. Vol. XXVI. New Haven, 1839.—
From the Conductors.

The Transylvania Journal of Medicine and the Associate Sciences. Vol. XII. No. 1. Lexington, 1839.—*From the Conductors.*

The Committee on the observations of the Solar Eclipse of May 14–15, 1836, reported, and their report was ordered for publication.

The American observations, 28 in number, were given at length. At the invitation of Mr. C. Rumker, Director of the Hamburg Observatory, conveyed through Prof. A. D. Bache, 21 of these observations had been forwarded by Mr. John Vaughan to that distinguished Astronomer, for comparison with those which had been made in Europe. The report contained a letter from Mr. Rumker, in which the time of ecliptic conjunction, with its variations for the small errors of the tables, was deduced from each of the European and American observations. Mr. Rumker remarks, that the corrections of this time for the corrections of the moon's declination and parallax, appearing with opposite signs in the observations on the two continents, afford unusual facilities for determining these corrections, particularly the latter. Mr. Rumker's letter not having given the final results deducible from his equations of condition, the committee appended a letter from Mr. Sears C. Walker, in which he deduces from Mr. Rumker's equations, the following corrections of the solar and lunar elements, as given in the N. Almanac.

$d(\odot + \ominus) = - 2''.279$	=	correction of sum of semidiameters.
$d(\odot - \ominus) = - 1''.750$	=	„ difference of semidiameters.
$d\beta = - 6''.736$	=	„ moon's latitude.
$d\pi = + 1''.516$	=	„ moon's parallax.
$d\lambda = - 2''.276$	=	„ moon's longitude.

These corrections being referred to the moon's orbit and its secondaries, give, after Bessel's notation (Astr. Nachr. 320.)

$\varepsilon = - 2''.934$	=	cor. moon's place in true orbit.
$\zeta = - 7''.198$	=	„ on secondary to do.

Mr. Peters, (Astr. Nachr. 326) without the American observations, had obtained.

$\varepsilon = - 3''.650$
$\zeta = - 5''.472$

Mr. Walker having previously reduced the American observations with Peters's co-ordinates and corrections, furnishes a comparison of the longitudes from Greenwich, derived by different computers from this eclipse.

	Walker from Runkler's equations.			Walker from Peters' co- ordinates.		
	h.	m.	s.	h.	m.	s.
Washington (Capitol,) - - - - -	5	8	13.83	5	8	13.45
Haverford School, Delaware Co., Pa. - -	5	1	16.53	5	1	15.05
Germantown, C. Wister's private Observatory,	5	0	40.61	5	0	40.94
Philadelphia, (State House) - - - - -	5	0	38.89	5	0	39.60
West Hills, (Coast Survey,) - - - - -	4	53	41.11	4	53	42.05
Southwick, Mass., A. Holcombe's p. Obs. -	4	51	12.89	4	51	13.25
Providence, Brown University, - - - -	not reduced.			4	45	33.33
Dorchester, Mass., Wm. C. Bond's p. Obs. -	,,			4	44	16.92

Mr. Walker finds from the resolution of Runkler's equations of condition, $+ 1''.516$ for the correction of Burckhardt's constant of the moon's equatorial parallax. In the Memoirs of the Astronomical Society, Vol. X., Mr. Henderson gives $+ 1''.5$ as the value of this correction, derived from Plana's *Théorie de la Lune*, and $+ 1''.3$ as the value of the same, derived from a discussion of all the meridian observations of the moon made in 1832 and 1833, with the mural circles at Greenwich, Cambridge, and the Cape of Good Hope. This correction had hitherto been derived chiefly from theory and meridian observations. It is seldom that an eclipse or occultation has been so extensively observed as to furnish a determination of this element. In the present instance, the results by the three independent methods, present a close agreement.

Dr. Chapman, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society, stated that he had received a letter from the Prince of Musignano, informing him that a meeting of the scientific men of Italy would be held at Pisa, in October next, and inviting the Society to send a delegate to the meeting.

Dr. Patterson communicated the decease of Mr. Francis Nichols, a member of the Society, on the 7th of July.

Dr. Bache also announced the decease of Dr. John Newnam, formerly of Salisbury, N. Carolina, a member of the Society.

The following candidates were declared duly elected members of the Society:—

THEOD. ROMEYN BECK, M. D., of Albany.

RICHARD C. TAYLOR, of Philadelphia.